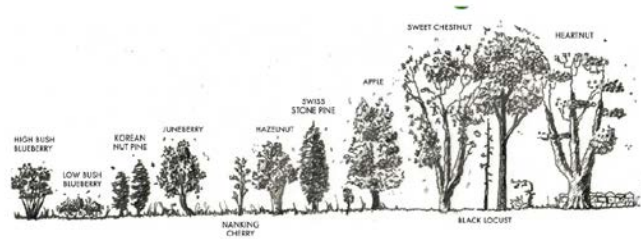


AGROFORESTRY ACCELERATOR



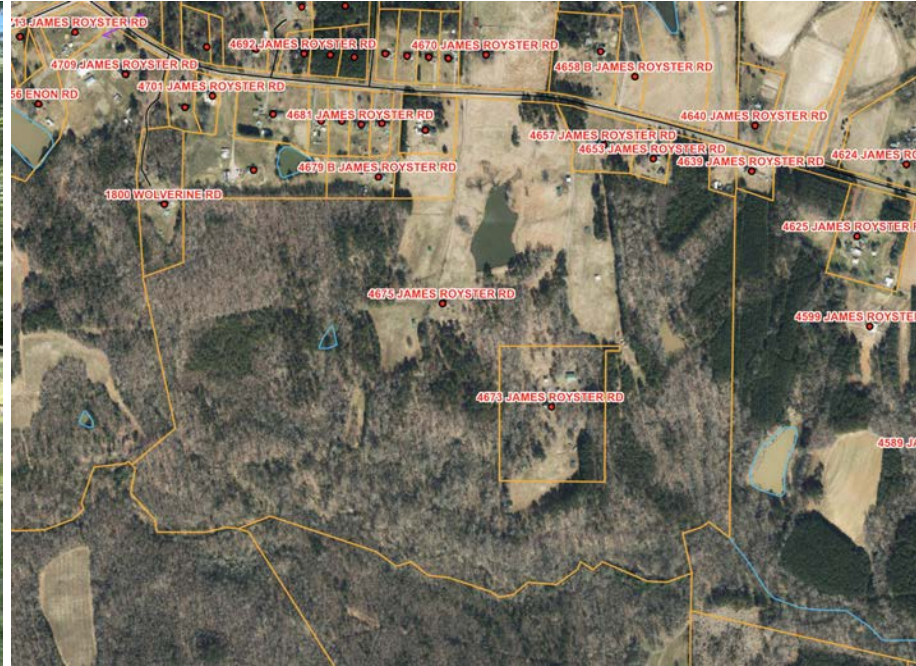
SPRING 2025 ON-FARM TRAININGS

In North Carolina we toured and studied



- Living Edge Edible Forest Garden near Chapel Hill, a 2-acre site planted over the last 15 years with edible and/or native species to have the structural diversity of a forest -- canopy trees, understory trees, shrub layer, herbaceous layer, vines, fungi and roots. The group of 12 Southeast agroforesters enjoyed a forest foods lunch.

North Carolina continued



- The Settles Farm near Durham, with 155-acres including extensive forest and grazing animals (80 head of Katahdin sheep, several Belted Galaway cattle, goats, chickens) that is converting about 20 acres of pasture into silvopasture planted with hundreds of native and edible trees. Participants planted Elderberry and Black Willow.
- Both properties are proposed for long-term stewardship by Permaculture Land Trust as mulit-generational Learning Centers and Seed Banks/Genetic Repositories and Nurseries for native and edible fruit and nut trees.

In New Jersey we toured and studied



- The Daniecki Tree Crops Orchard in Jobstown NJ. This is a 20-acre site where, for the last 30+ years, one man has been growing and breeding edible varieties of native and naturalized trees and shrubs (lots of hickories, chestnuts, walnuts, persimmons, Asian pears, mulberries, jujubes...The tour was led by Zach Elfers of [Keystone Tree Crops Cooperative](#) and Ted Daniecki. The group of 23 Mid-Atlantic agroforesters enjoyed a forest foods lunch (with Hickory Oil) and learned about grafting scion wood (including delicious Asian Pear onto invasive Bradford Pear).
- This site is proposed for long-term stewardship by PLT as a multi-generational Learning Center and Seed Bank/Genetic Repository and Nursery for native and edible fruit and nut trees.

New Jersey continued



- [Foggy Bottom Tree Farm](#), a 120-acre tree farm and nursery in Columbus NJ which includes a native plant/seed nursery and an extensive planting of Hazelnut trees with varieties of European hazelnuts developed by Rutgers University. The contrast of a more commercial/industrial business model with a more community/ecological focus of the Daneicki Orchard was tangible.
- Our next training in September will include a tour of the 100-year old [John Hershey Trees](#), a 100+ year old food forest in southeast PA outside of Philadelphia, some of which is owned by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia (and is most likely slated for development) and some is owned by a Homeowners Association for a residential development.

In New York we toured and studied several sites in the Hudson Valley



- [Black Creek Farm and Nursery](#), a 36-acre tree crops nursery in Highlands NY growing thousands of native and edible tree species in a food forest setting. Erik Schellenberg practices Syntropic Agriculture, planting to mimic natural forest succession that produces high-yielding, self-sustaining food ecosystems.



The good stuff...delicious, low carbon-footprint culinary oil from Keystone Tree Crops Cooperative

New York continued



- [Hortus Arboretum and Botanical Gardens](#) in Stone Ridge NY, a 20-acre forest garden highlighting a wide range of edible tree and shrub species at the foot of the Catskill Mountains, including those that are becoming rare and threatened. In total, 21 agroforesters attended from the Northeast, and enjoyed a forest foods lunch.

New York continued



- A 225-acre farm in Accord NY where filmmaker Costa Boutsikaris of [Mastwood Farms](#) and [Inhabit Films](#) and Ivan Goodman are planting edible tree crops on a 225-acre farm with intensive alley cropping and future silvopasture along a keyline swale system being, and also native riparian forest plantings in a floodplain hayfield. The day ended with a rainbow overhead.

In each of these communities and bioregions of the Temperate Eastern Deciduous Forest... a good day was had by all!